



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

JANUARY 2019

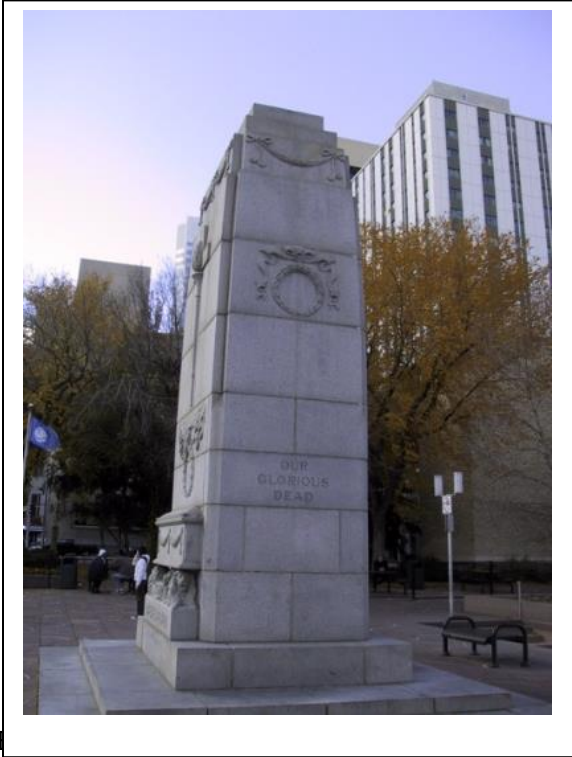
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President's Comments

Happy New Year to you all and may the new year bring you good health and fortune. For all service men and women who cannot be with their family this holiday season, I thank you for your sacrifice and your service. 2018 has been a relatively successful year for EUSI, although our membership number has remain unchanged. We have seen an improved communications networking and our visibility in the community at large has also been increased through our activities, which helps to bring to view defence and security concerns. The symposium we hosted in October 2018 saw an increased audience and the video tape of the event was referred to by academia a few times. There were also requests for speech engagements for a number of the panelist who presented in the symposium. This demonstrated that we have picked the right topic for discussion. In deed, the EUSI have raised current military and security concerns in the last few symposiums and these were followed up by the Department of National Defence.

For the coming year, I hope to continue to recruit new members and have a closer relationship with other United Services Institutes, especially in Calgary and Vancouver. As a member of EUSI, please do what you can to recruit at least one new member for this year.

One of the upcoming agenda for EUSI is to select a pressing topic for the good of Canadian military and security. I have spoken to a number of members on this issue and the matter of Chinese military and economic expansionism was mentioned. There is no shortage of comments about Chinese military flexing its muscles is a threat to the present balance of world power, especially in Asia. Its economic rivalry with USA has amply demonstrated an impact on world trade and economy. The ripple effect is certainly felt in Canada, not only in trades but also in retaliatory detention of Canadian nationals. On the other side of the opinion poll is the argument that while China strives to be an economic superpower, it does not intent to achieve its aims through military means. I believe the next EUSI symposium will be able to provide a forum for meaningful discussion and perhaps some insight for the Canadian government into dealing with this emerging power. I have a number of interested speakers I intent to talk to. However, if anyone has a suggestion, please contact the president, EUSI. I hope to have an AGM and board meeting by February.



ATTACK

A dawn the ridge emerges massed and dun
In the wild purple of the glow'ring sun,
Smouldering through spouts of drifting smoke that
shroud
The menacing scarred slope; and, one by one,
Tanks creep and topple forward to the wire.
The barrage roars and lifts. Then, clumsily bowed
With bombs and guns and shovels and battle-gear,
Men jostle and climb to meet the bristling fire.
Lines of grey, muttering faces, masked with fear,
They leave their trenches, going over the top,
While time ticks blank and busy on their wrists,
And hope, with furtive eyes and grappling fists,
Flounders in mud. O Jesus, make it stop!



HUMOUR (Warning, Adult Content)

Submitted by my friend, Sgt (ret'd) AE Bince, a Korean veteran with a weird sense of humor

It is hard to find a joke today without a dirty word or two in it, but here is one:

Two tall trees, a birch and a beech, are growing in the woods. A small tree begins to grow between them, and the beech says to the birch, 'Is that a son of a beech or a son of a birch?' The birch says he cannot tell, but just then a woodpecker lands on the sapling.

The birch says, 'Woodpecker, you are a tree expert. Can you tell if that is a son of a beech or a son of a birch?'

The woodpecker takes a taste of the small tree and replies, 'It is neither a son of a beech nor a son of a birch. It is, however, the best piece of ash I have ever poked my pecker into.'

Now wipe that smile off your face. And pass it on...



Get trained!

CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Due to holiday season, I have not really touched a book in a month. I did take a couple of books with me when I left for vacation in Taipei, Japan and Bali, my sense of need to relax and imbibe on tropical beverages adversely affected my reading skills. Consequently, there is no book review for this issue.



CANADIAN GEAR

LONG RANGE SNIPER WEAPON (LRSW)



The Long-Range Sniper Weapon provides snipers with a rifle that can deliver highly accurate fire against hard targets at ranges of up to 1800 meters. It is rugged and performs well under extreme climactic conditions. The rifle is a heavy-barrel, bolt action detachable box magazine-fed weapon with a five-shot capacity. The weapon was introduced in the fall of 2000.



What's Out There

The U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) and U.S. Marine Corps are looking to go in a different direction and potentially buy a weapon that sits somewhere between the iconic “Ma Deuce” and lighter 7.62mm machine guns.

On May 11, 2017, SOCOM and the Marines [posted a notice](#) on the U.S. government’s main contracting website, FedBizOpps, looking for information from companies on their ability to build as many as 5,000 machine guns chambered in .338 Norma Magnum. This round is more commonly associated with long-range precision rifles.

The belt-fed “lightweight medium machine gun” (LWMMG) is less than 24 pounds, have a barrel 24 inches long, and able to fire somewhere between 500 to 600 rounds per minute. Special operators and Marines want a weapon that is accurate against area targets, such as groups of individuals or vehicles, out to a range of more than 2,000 yards.



A General Dynamics LWMMG Prototype with suppressor

Securitas

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